

Bill No. 36-06  
Concerning: Forest Preservation  
Advisory Committee – Establishment  
Revised: 7/28/2006 Draft No. 1  
Introduced: August 1, 2006  
Expires: February 1, 2008  
Enacted: \_\_\_\_\_  
Executive: \_\_\_\_\_  
Effective: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sunset Date: None  
Ch. \_\_\_\_\_, Laws of Mont. Co. \_\_\_\_\_

## COUNTY COUNCIL FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

---

By: Councilmembers Perez, Denis, and Praisner and Council President Leventhal

---

**AN ACT** to:

- (1) establish a Forest Preservation Advisory Committee; and
- (2) generally amend the forest conservation law.

By adding

Montgomery County Code  
Chapter 22A, Forest Conservation – Trees  
Section 22A-31

<b>Boldface</b>	<i>Heading or defined term.</i>
<u>Underlining</u>	<i>Added to existing law by original bill.</i>
[Single boldface brackets]	<i>Deleted from existing law by original bill.</i>
<u>Double underlining</u>	<i>Added by amendment.</i>
[[Double boldface brackets]]	<i>Deleted from existing law or the bill by amendment.</i>
* * *	<i>Existing law unaffected by bill.</i>

*The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland approves the following Act:*

**Sec. 1. Section 22A-31 is added as follows:**

**22A-31. Forest Preservation Advisory Committee.**

(a) Definition. In this section “Committee” means the Forest Preservation Advisory Committee.

(b) Established. The County Executive must appoint, subject to confirmation by the County Council, a Forest Preservation Advisory Committee.

(c) Composition and terms of members.

(1) The Committee has 15 public members. The public members should include:

(A) landscape architects;

(B) arborists and urban foresters;

(C) horticulturists and representatives from the nursery industry;

(D) persons directly engaged in agriculture;

(E) persons directly involved in the building industry;

(F) members of citizen groups;

(G) members of environmental and conservation organizations; and

(H) representatives of public utility companies.

(2) The Executive must designate a staff member from each of the following departments to serve as an ex officio member:

(A) Economic Development;

(B) Environmental Protection; and

(C) Public Works and Transportation.

(3) The Executive must invite a representative from each of the following agencies to serve as an ex officio member:

(A) the County Planning Board; and

(B) the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission.

(4) The term of each member is 3 years and expires on December 31. After an appointment to fill a vacancy before a term expires, the successor serves the rest of the unexpired term.

(d) *Voting, officers, meetings, and compensation.*

(1) All members of the Committee are voting members.

(2) Each January, the Executive may designate a chair and vice-chair from among the Committee's public members to serve a 1-year term. If the County Executive does not designate a chair or vice-chair by February 15, the Committee members must select a chair and vice-chair.

(3) The Committee meets at the call of the Chair. The Committee must meet as often as necessary to perform its duties, but not less than 9 times each year.

(4) A member must serve without compensation. However, a member may request reimbursement for mileage and dependent care costs at rates established by the County.

(e) *Duties. The Committee must:*

(1) advise the Executive and Council on urban forestry policy issues;

(2) propose to the Executive and Council proactive urban forestry policies, laws, and guidelines;

(3) recommend a comprehensive urban forestry master plan;

(4) advise on a tree inventory;

(5) review and comment on policies and programs related to urban forestry;

(6) promote and seek funding for a sustained urban forestry program;

(7) promote and foster a strong sense of community through urban forestry;

(8) communicate with other boards, agencies, and community residents about urban forestry issues; and

(9) promote volunteerism and act as a general information resource.

(f) Annual Report. By October 1 each year, the Committee must submit to the Executive and Council an annual report on its functions, activities, accomplishments, and plans and objectives.

(g) Advocacy. The Committee must not engage in any advocacy activity at the State or federal levels unless that activity is approved by the Office of Intergovernmental Relations.

(h) Staff. The Chief Administrative Officer must provide appropriate staff to the Committee.

**Sec. 2. Transition.** The County Executive must stagger the terms of the members initially appointed under Section 22A-31(c)(2) so that approximately one-third of the terms of these members expire each year.

*Approved:*

---

George L. Leventhal, President, County Council

Date

*Approved:*

---

Douglas M. Duncan, County Executive

Date

*This is a correct copy of Council action.*

---

Linda M. Lauer, Clerk of the Council

Date